Appendix H

Segment 23, Astoria-Rainey Cable

Public Involvement Plan & Complaint Resolution Plan

Case 10-T-0139

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PLAN & COMPLAINT RESOLUTION PLAN







Segment 23: Astoria Rainey Cable Project





September 23, 2023

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Targeted Public Outreach for Segment 23

1 Project Overview

The Champlain Hudson Power Express (CHPE) is a renewable energy transmission project that will deliver clean power to the New York City metropolitan area. The energy brought to New York consumers through this project will be hydropower produced by Hydro-Québec in the Canadian Province of Québec utilizing natural water flows to generate electricity. The project will play a key role in New York's energy transformation by lowering greenhouse gas emissions while creating jobs and generating billions of dollars in new investments. CHPE will span nearly 339 miles from the U.S.-Canadian border to the heart of New York City (detailed in Figures 1 and 2). The project will deliver enough power for more than one million New York homes and supply power to Quebec sections. CHPE will also provide significant economic benefits to The Empire State, including an estimated \$1.7 billion in tax revenue for local municipalities.

CHPE will construct the high voltage direct current (HVDC) transmission line (two 400kV cables with a fiber optic cable) in both marine (192 miles or 56.6% of total alignment) and overland (147 miles, 43.4%) environments, with approximately three-quarters of the overland alignment within railroad (CP, CSX, and PA) right-of-way (ROW) and the balance of the overland miles (24.5%) in NYSDOT, Thruway Authority, local road ROWs, recreational sites, and private lands. CHPE will place the HVDC transmission line underground in both the marine and overland alignments. In addition to the transmission line, CHPE will construct an HVDC Converter Station in Astoria, Queens, and a high voltage alternating current (HVAC) system including a 0.3-mile overhead line, modification of the Astoria Annex Substation, and a nearly 3.5 mile (two 345kV cables) from the Astoria Annex to the Rainey Substation, a.k.a. the Astoria-Rainey Cable (ARC). CHPE will construct the Converter Station and HVAC system on the Astoria Annex and underground city streets in Queens.

1.1 Impacted Municipalities:

- Washington County: Town of Putnam, Town of Dresden, Town of Whitehall, Village of Whitehall, Town of Fort Ann, Village of Fort Ann, Town of Kingsbury, Town of Fort Edward and Village of Fort Edward.
- Saratoga County: Town of Moreau, Town of Northumberland, Town of Wilton, Town of Greenfield,
 City of Saratoga Springs, Town of Milton, Town of Ballston, and Town of Clifton Park.
- Schenectady County: Town of Glenville, Village of Scotia, and Town of Rotterdam.
- **Albany County:** Town of Guilderland, Village of Voorheesville, Town of New Scotland, and Town of Coeymans.
- **Greene County:** Town of New Baltimore, Town of Coxsackie, Village of Coxsackie, Town of Catskill, and Village of Catskill.
- **Rockland County:** Town of Stony Point, Village of Haverstraw, Village of West Haverstraw, Town of Haverstraw, and Town of Clarkstown.
- Bronx County: Bronx
- New York County: Manhattan
- Queens County: Queens

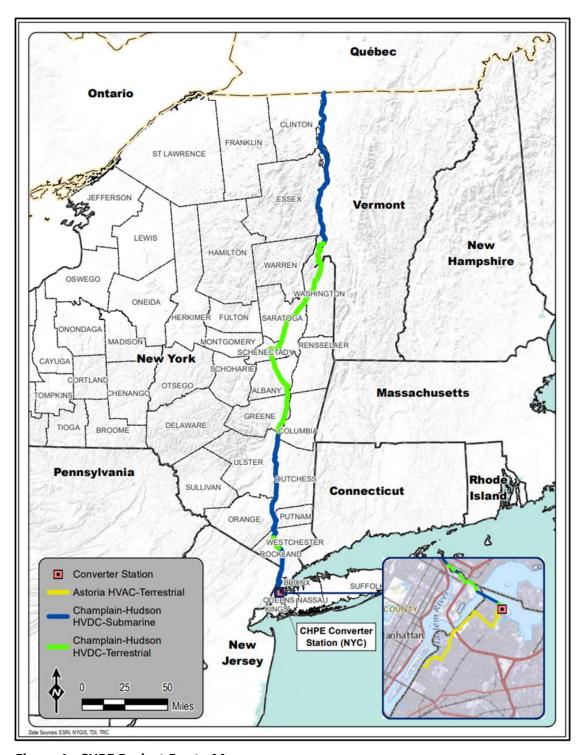


Figure 1 CHPE Project Route Map.



Figure 2 Astoria Rainey Cable Project

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2 Public Involvement Plan Overview:

The Public Involvement Plan (PIP) is a living document and serves as a proposed set of actions, strategies, methodologies, and overarching timeline to guide the outreach process throughout construction and post-construction site restoration. CHPE will update the PIP throughout the project entering commercial operation.

CHPE has developed The Public Involvement Plan to encourage public awareness and understanding of the CHPE project. The overall goal of the PIP is to promote two-way communication between the project and residents, public officials, and business owners in each affected community.

The PIP provides an overall framework for conducting a comprehensive and effective information exchange throughout the project. However, the framework is also flexible, scalable, and customizable, to meet the specific communication needs most effectively of each affected community. The PIP can also be modified based on suggestions from community members and officials.

CHPE has included specific public outreach activities and affected stakeholders for this segment, as well as a public meeting and notification information Attachment 1 at the end of this document.

2.1 Public Involvement Goals:

The goals of the construction-phase outreach program will be to:

- Communicate information, proposed schedules, and other matters to the public and stakeholders regarding Environmental Management and Construction Plans (EM&CPs) submitted for each segment and upcoming construction activities during the construction phase.
- Keep residents and officials in affected communities, local stakeholders, and interest groups; and the news media informed promptly of significant project activities.
- Provide a method for stakeholders to inquire and raise concerns with the project team.
- Work to create and maintain, through an active Public Involvement plan, a climate of understanding and trust aimed at providing information and responding to concerns promptly.
- Comply with Article VII public outreach requirements.

The term "stakeholders" includes a broad range of individuals and organizations, including agencies and community groups with specific interests in renewable energy, including elected and appointed officials, business owners, commercial entities, emergency responders, schools, transit companies, landowners (host and abutting), and others located within or having interests within the Project Area. This term also applies to the general public in the Project Area.

2.2 Public Involvement Team:

The Public Involvement Plan will complement previous and ongoing outreach efforts by the Certificate Holder, CHPE LLC. WSP will support CHPE's Outreach and include several project partners. WSP is one of the world's leading engineering, environmental, and professional services firms comprised of engineers, planners, technical experts, construction managers, and communications and public involvement professionals. A clear division of roles and responsibilities will maximize CHPE's Outreach team

communication efforts and provide consistency of messages and approach. The following highlights the delineation of primary responsibilities:

- Public Outreach Program Oversight, Public Relations & Media Engagement CHPE LLC
- Public Outreach Program WSP, with support from CHPE LLC
- Public Relations & Media Engagement along with oversight of Public Outreach Program CHPE LLC
- Public Relations/Tech Support Mower
- Press & Media Engagement Risa Heller
- Regulatory Compliance Young/Sommer LLC

2.3 Community Outreach Stages and Schedule:

Outreach for the CHPE project will be ongoing and be adjusted depending on the stage of the project, the geographic segment, and the construction method. This project has been broken into multiple segments and will include overland and marine construction.

Design	Construction	Route Detail,		PSC	
Package	Segment	ROW Owner	Miles	Status	Target NTP Date
		Putnam to			
		Dresden (1A)			
		Dresden to			
		Whitehall (1B)			
1A / 1B	1/2	Road ROW	17.8	Approved	Ryder: 12/9/22 (LNTP) 1A/1B: 2/27/23
	Laydown	3 Laydown			Ft Edward: 3/22/23 Bethlehem: 4/27/23
3, 5B, 6	Yard	Yards	N/A	Approved	Coxsackie: 4/6/23
		Rotterdam to			
		Bethlehem (5A)			
		Selkirk Bypass			
		(5B)			
5A / 5B	8/9	CSX ROW	22.3	Approved	7/5/2023
		Whitehall to			
		Fort Ann (1C)			
		Fort Ann to			
		Kingsbury (2)			
	_	CP / Old Route			
1C / 2	3	4	20.8	Approved	5/22/2023
		Catskill to			
7.0	4.4	Germantown	0.6	Under	0/24/2022
7A	11	CSX ROW	8.6	Review	8/31/2023
		Kingsbury to			
		Milton		Undor	
3	4-5	CP / Old Route 4	26.5	Under Review	8/31/2023
3	4-3	Stony Point to	20.5	verien	0/31/2023
		Haverstraw			
		Rockland Route		Under	
7B	12	9W	7.6	Review	8/31/2023
"	_ 	Milton to	7.5	Under	0,0-1,-020
4A / 4B	6/7	Ballston - CP /	19.8	Review	9/28/2023
, .5	-, ·				-,,

1		Old Route 4			1
		(4A)			
		Ballston to			
		Schenectady /			
		Rotterdam -			
		PanAm (4B)			
		Randall's		_	
		Island, HRY,		Under	
8	13 -15	Astoria	2.1	Review	9/28/2023
		Ravena to			
		Catskill		Under	
6	10	CSX RR ROW	20.9	Review	10/26/2023
Marine					
		Hudson / Stony			
		Point			
		Transitional			
9	16	HDD	N/A	Approved	5/16/2023
		Other			
		Transitional			
10	17	HDDs	N/A	Approved	
		Lake Champlain			
		(Pre-Lay			
11A	18A	Mattressing)	N/A	Approved	8/1/2023
		Hudson River			
		(Pre-Lay		Under	
12	19A	Mattressing)	N/A	Review	9/28/2023
		=-		Pending	
11B	18B	Lake Champlain	96.8	Submittal	5/1/2024
		Hudson &		Pending	
13 / 14	19B/20/21?	Harlem Rivers	95.3	Submittal	7/10/2024
NYC/HVA					
		Converter			
	22	Station	N/A	Approved	6/1/2023
		ARC / AC		Pending	
	23	Interconnection	3	Submittal	5/1/2024
		Astoria Annex		Pending	
		Expansion	N/A	Submittal	8/1/2024

Figure 3: Overland and Marine Segments/Packages: Project Construction and Sequencing and

Scheduling 7/15/2023

Lake Champlain

Construction Expected: Spring, 2023 - Summer 2024

Outreach Anticipated: Q1 2023 - Q4 2024

Before the start of construction, CHPE will conduct Outreach at recreation centers, marinas, parks/visitors' centers, and ferry terminals. CHPE will post flyers and signage to notify recreators of potential access restrictions. CHPE will send official notice of construction to mariners, local officials, host/abutting property owners in the area, and relevant state and federal regulators. Although construction is on the New York side

of Lake Champlain, Outreach may also be conducted on the Vermont side since construction will likely be visible from both shorelines at times and construction may impact access to Vermont recreators.

Outreach Tactics: Meetings with all key elected officials and other stakeholders (as guided by elected officials), direct mail, flyers, text messaging, and signage. Tactics are described in more detail in Section 3.

Sequence of Outreach:

Pre-construction: Outreach to property owners and affected stakeholders; virtual meetings with local officials; Any required notifications sent according to regulations as outlined in Section 3.1.

Construction – Continued communication with the community through outreach tactics as construction progresses.

Capital Region (Putnam Station to Catskill)

Construction Expected: Fall, 2022 – Summer, 2025

Outreach Anticipated: Q4 2022 – Q4 2025

Overland construction is primarily within railroad right of way in this corridor and traverses various rural, residential, and industrial areas. Overland construction has the potential to impact roadways as deliveries and equipment may need traffic control, which could impede the normal flow of traffic.

Outreach Tactics: Meetings with key elected officials and stakeholders identified through meetings, direct mail, flyers, text messaging, door hangers, variable message boards, and public meetings. Tactics are described in more detail in Section 3.

Sequence of Outreach

Pre-construction – Individual Outreach to host property owners and meetings with local officials.

Two weeks before site preparation – Official notice to local officials and host/abutting property owners.

Construction – Kick-off open house public meeting; continued communication with the community through outreach tactics as construction progresses.

Upper Hudson River (Catskill to Stony Point)

Construction Expected: Summer, 2023 – Summer, 2025

Outreach Anticipated: Q1 2023 - Q4 2025

This project's Upper Hudson marine portion has many marinas, docks, parks, recreational sites, and businesses along the river.

Outreach Tactics: Direct mail, flyers, text messaging, signage. Tactics described in more detail in Section 3

Sequence of Outreach:

Pre-construction – Individual Outreach to host property owners and meetings with local officials.

Two weeks before site preparation – Official notice to mariners, local officials, and host/abutting property owners.

Construction – Continued communication with the community through outreach tactics as construction progresses.

Rockland County (Stony Point to Clarkstown)

Construction Expected: Summer, 2023 - Summer, 2025

Outreach Anticipated: Q1 2023 - Q4 2025

As population density increases, the closer the project is to New York City, it will be essential to leverage relationships with local governments and community organizations to disseminate project messaging and updates. Overland construction in Rockland County will likely affect local traffic and access to businesses and residences. In addition to notifying individual businesses and homes, communication channels through local government and business or neighborhood organizations will help relay project notifications and construction impacts, reaching a larger audience. The project will coordinate step-by-step with those stakeholders that have previously been involved in project development.

Outreach Tactics: Direct mail, flyers, text messaging, variable message boards, public meetings. Tactics are described in more detail in Section 3.

Sequence of Outreach:

Pre-construction – Individual Outreach to host property owners and virtual meetings with local officials.

Two weeks before site preparation – Official notice to local officials and host/abutting property owners.

Construction – Kick-off open house public meeting; continued communication with the community through outreach tactics as construction progresses.

Lower Hudson River and Harlem River (Clarkstown to New York City)

Construction Expected: Summer, 2024 – Summer, 2026

Outreach Anticipated: Q1 2024 – Q4 2026

Communications to local marinas, parks, piers, businesses, and environmental groups will continue to play an essential role in the project's success as submarine construction begins in the Lower Hudson River.

Outreach Tactics: Direct mail, flyers, text messaging, signage. Tactics are described in more detail in Section 3.

Sequence of Outreach:

Pre-construction – Individual Outreach to host property owners and meetings with local officials.

Two weeks before site preparation – Official notice to mariners, local officials, and host/abutting property owners.

Construction – Continued communication with the community through outreach tactics as construction progresses.

New York City (Randall's Island and Queens)

Construction Expected:

Harlem River - Summer, 2024 - Fall, 2025

Randall's Island -Fall, 2023 - Fall, 2024

Queens – Spring, 2023 – Spring, 2025

Overland construction on Randall's Island will require close coordination with Randall's Island Park Alliance and the New York City Department of Parks and Recreation. Communicating through their channels will be beneficial to provide construction updates and impacts to a broad audience.

Coordination and communication with businesses, docks, and marinas along the Harlem and East Rivers are crucial in a dense area. Understanding the access needs of the businesses and waterways will help mitigate potential issues due to access constraints.

Overland construction in Astoria will require direct mailers, signage, and flyers to notify businesses, residents, and passersby of upcoming construction impacts.

Outreach Tactics: Direct mail, flyers, text messaging, signage, social media, public meetings, variable message boards. Tactics are described in more detail in Section 3.

Sequence of Outreach:

Pre-construction – Individual Outreach to host property owners and meetings with local officials.

Two weeks before site preparation – Official notice to local officials and host/abutting property owners.

Construction – Kick-off open house public meeting; continued communication with the community through outreach tactics as construction progresses.

3 Public Involvement Outreach:

Throughout the project design and construction project, the Certificate Holders' Outreach team will create informational materials to be disseminated to the public during public meetings and events and as needed. Materials produced by the Certificate Holders' Outreach team will include materials for the existing project website www.chpexpress.com and project factsheets, project plans, and other materials deemed necessary by the project team with the Certificate Holders' approval. In addition, communication with affected communities will continue throughout construction as work progresses.

CHPE will translate materials into the most prevalently spoken languages in the community and additional languages as needed and upon request. In addition, virtual and in-person meetings have been held with officials to introduce the project, discuss the route through affected communities, answer questions and establish ongoing communication between municipalities and the project.

A total of nine virtual meetings have been held, with 59 local officials participating.

3.1 Notices and Public Inquiries:

Before beginning construction within a segment, CHPE will mail notifications to the following groups at least two weeks before the beginning of site preparation for construction:

- Local emergency personnel and local officials in the area where construction will occur
- Owners and occupants of properties within 100 feet of construction
- Public and private utilities within the construction area

In addition to mailed notifications to property owners, local officials, and emergency personnel listed in Attachment 1, notices will be posted in local media and displayed in public places also listed in Attachment 1. (Post offices, community centers, libraries, and bulletin boards) no less than two weeks before the beginning of site preparation. If site work is delayed significantly, CHPE will provide additional notice to the public before site work resumes. Notification materials will include a map of the construction zone, an anticipated date for the start of construction, a statement that the Facility is under the jurisdiction of the Public Service Commission and which residents and stakeholders can contact directly, and the following information for stakeholders to inquire or express a concern about the project:

3.1.1 Toll-Free Phone Number

To provide the public and interested stakeholders with a direct line to the project, the Certificate Holders' Outreach team established a 1-800 number that will record calls and alert team members when that they have received a concern or comment. The established number for the project is 1-800-991-CHPE (2473).

CHPE will respond to messages received through the toll-free project number will be responded to within two business days. The voicemail box message acknowledges receipt of the message.

3.1.2 Project Email Address

To address comments and concerns from the public, the Certificate Holders' Outreach team has arranged for a project email address. The email account will receive public input and be accessible by members of the Public Involvement Team. The established project email address is publicoutreach@chpexpress.com. CHPE will respond to inquiries, comments, or concerns sent to the Project Email Address will be responded to within two business days. An automated reply acknowledges receipt of the message.

3.1.3 Website

CHPE will establish a comment form on the project website. CHPE will direct comments, concerns, and general feedback submitted through the website form to the project email account listed above, which will be checked regularly by the Public Outreach Team. The project webpage is https://chpexpress.com/

The website will include a form for visitors to sign up for email, text and USPS mail updates and alerts regarding the project.

CHPE will respond to inquiries, comments, or concerns forwarded to Project Email Address from the website comment form within two business days.

3.1.4 Points of Contact

CHPE has appointed Molly Hollister as the primary point of contact for the Project.

CHPE: Molly Hollister

WSP USA, One Pennsylvania Plaza, New York, New York 10119

Phone: 800-991-CHPE (2473)

Email: publicoutreach@chpexpress.com

DPS: Michelle L. Phillips, Secretary to the Commission, New York Department of Public Service

Phone: 518-474-4520

Email: secretary@dps.ny.gov

DPS: Matthew Smith

Office of Electric, Gas and Water, New York State Department of Public Service,

Three Empire State Plaza, Albany, NY 12223

Phone: (518)474-8702

Email: Matthew.Smith@dps.ny.gov.

Molly Hollister is the point of contact overseeing the Certificate Holders' Outreach team members assigned to check the toll-free phone number and project email address daily. WSP will be responsible for confirming receipt of the inquiry within two business days, routing it to the appropriate project team member for a response, following up on a resolution, and logging the communication in the stakeholder database.

CHPE will log communications with stakeholders in a database. The database will include any inquiries or comments received via the toll-free number, project email, or website and the project team's response and outgoing communication efforts, like construction notices. For complaints, CHPE will maintain a log that lists at least the date of any complaint, identity and contact information for the complaining party, the date of the Certificate Holders' response, and a description of the outcome. Call logs will be maintained and reported to the DPS in accordance with the Article VII Certificate.

3.1.5 Test Message Alerts

CHPE will coordinate with NYS DOT and NY511.gov to provide to allow the public to sign up for text message notifications of construction activities in their region.

3.1.6 Website Materials:

To aid in public awareness of the CHPE project, the Certificate Holders' Outreach team will collaborate with the larger project team to develop relevant materials to keep the public and identified stakeholders apprised of project activities, both past, and future. The website includes maps of the project area, construction schedule, and complaint resolution procedures.

Materials produced by the Certificate Holders' Outreach team will not be limited to informational materials.

3.1.7 Informational Pamphlets and Factsheets:

The Certificate Holders' Outreach team will develop informational material throughout construction. A project factsheet has been created that explains the entire project and its impacts and benefits at the local level. It also includes project contact information, as well as how to file a complaint or concern with the Department of Public Service, and Frequently Asked Questions from the public about how construction will proceed. In addition, CHPE will deliver informational materials to points of interest along the corridor, including libraries and other community centers. Materials will be available in multiple languages based on the most frequently used languages in the host community. All materials will be posted on the CHPE website.

CHPE will develop flyers to notify the public of upcoming construction. Based on the needs of specific project segments and communities within the segment, these flyers will be distributed to local marinas, bait and tackle shops, recreation facilities, libraries, post offices, community bulletin boards, and other public facilities to provide notice of construction. Flyers will include CHPE contact information as well as how to file a complaint or concern with the Department of Public Service.

3.1.8 Doorhangers:

CHPE will develop door hangers for use in the field if contact needs to be made with a resident or business that other methods cannot reach. The Outreach Team can attach notification materials and a written note on the door hanger. Doorhangers will include applicable contact information, including how to file a complaint with the NYS Department of Public Service.

3.1.9 Contact Cards:

Contact cards, the business card size, will be developed and printed for use in the field. The contact cards will include:

- The toll-free number,
- Project email address, and
- Website for field personnel to distribute to the public if inquiries or concerns arise.

All inquiries and concerns need to be routed to the Certificate Holders' Outreach team to be responded to and cataloged in accordance with Article VII.

3.1.10 Signage:

CHPE will develop and print yard signs with applicable contact information and place them at construction sites. These signs will provide additional notice to the public and allow contact information to be easily accessed should questions or concerns arise.

3.1.11 Variable Message Boards:

As necessary, the Certificate Holders' Outreach team will work with the construction team to post variable message boards in advance of traffic impacts and in areas where ingress/egress may be affected.

3.1.12 Social Media:

CHPE will use social media to increase awareness, promote the project, and provide construction updates and notifications. The Certificate Holders' Outreach team will have accounts and develop content for use on social media channels like Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter. In addition, CHPE will use the hashtag #CHPE to make it easy for the public to find and engage with posts.

The Certificate Holders' Outreach team will identify related organizations, such as local municipalities and community organizations, and request their participation in sharing the CHPE social media posts to increase reach.

3.1.13 Document Repositories

CHPE will maintain printed document repositories at local libraries. The materials may be viewed during regular business hours. See Attachment 1 for locations. All documents will also be posted on the project website, www.chpexpress.com

4 Media

Due to the size and reach of the project, CHPE anticipates considerable media attention throughout the project's construction phases. The project Certificate Holders' Outreach team will coordinate media requests and availability with the Certificate Holders.

4.1 Media Opportunity Availability:

The project Certificate Holders' Outreach team will accept media requests and work with the larger project team to determine the appropriate project representative to respond to media availability requests.

Media requests will be evaluated case-by-case by the Certificate Holders' Outreach team to determine if members from the larger project team need to be involved in the response.

5 Open House Public Meetings

The Certificate Holders' Outreach team will coordinate and support open house public meetings for the overland construction areas to re-acquaint the public with the project, provide a timeline of upcoming construction, and inform the local community about what to expect during construction. There will be a series of in-person meetings in an open house format with informational boards, collateral materials like project factsheets, and project team members available to talk to the public and answer questions about the project.

In addition, CHPE will link an online virtual open house to the website and post the same materials and presentations available at the in-person open houses for members of the public who could not attend. CHPE will provide translators and translated materials for these meetings as necessary.

Public meeting notifications will also allow community members to request translators for their specific language needs. All open house materials will include CHPE contact information, how to file a complaint or concern with the State Department of Public Service and the process and timeline for how the inquiry will be addressed.

For each overland project Segment, CHPE will hold at least one public meeting at a location convenient to residents of the affected communities. In addition, CHPE will advertise meetings in local print and online outlets, social media, and municipal calendars. Stakeholders and affected landowners be sent an invitation to the Open House.

5.1 Meeting Coordination

The Certificate Holders' Outreach team will arrange for meeting venues, secure a virtual platform, and manage all aspects of virtual meetings, advertise meetings in print and online, organize meeting materials, attend meetings to oversee and take notes, as well as work with the larger project team on relevant meeting aspects.

CHPE will include a meeting invitation with the notification mailing to affected landowners and interested stakeholders and post the invitation in public places.

5.2 Meeting Materials

The Certificate Holders' Outreach team will develop meeting materials ahead of each public meeting. Meeting materials will primarily include traditional meeting materials like sign-in sheets, comment cards, wayfinding signs, factsheets, and presentation boards, as applicable.

6 Complaint Resolution and Reporting:

CHPE will use a stakeholder management database to log calls, complaints, and inquiries received from the toll-free phone number, email address, and website, as outlined in Section 3.1. CHPE will log each correspondence listing the date of the inquiry, contact information for inquiring party, question or complaint, and description of the outcome. The inquiry log will be made available to Certificate Holders upon DPS request. The Certificate Holders' Outreach team will notify Certificate Holders if they cannot resolve a complaint after reasonable attempts, so Certificate Holders can report to DPS within three business days, as required by the Certificate.

The Certificate Holders' Outreach team will do its best to address all claims, track responses, and make the best effort to resolve all complaints. However, a resolution may not be possible in every circumstance.

The Certificate Holders' Outreach team has begun to report public outreach activities to Certificate Holders monthly or as requested for submission to the DPS Project Manager. The public involvement report will include information tracked by each project partner supporting the public involvement plan. In addition, at the end of each year of construction, the Certificate Holders' Outreach team will provide a report of public outreach activities that year, as well as a look ahead for the next year until the Facility reaches commercial operation and any concerns that might arise during construction.

Attachment 1: CHPE ASTORIA RAINEY CABLE PROEJCT Public Outreach and Complaint Resolution Plan

Segment Description and Location

Segment 23 is made up primarily of urban communities in Astoria and Long Island City, Queens. The 3.5 mile underground line runs from the Con Edison Rainey Substation located at the corner of Vernon Boulevard and 35th Street in Long Island City, Queens, New York and ends at the NYPA Astoria Annex located at the northern end of 31st Street, in Astoria, Queens, New York. The transmission line will be owned and operated by the NYPA. The land use along the line consists of residential, commercial, industrial, and recreational properties in an urban setting. The East River runs along a portion of the line adjacent to Shore Boulevard. Luyster Creek is located east of the line as it enters Con Edison property along 31st Street.

SUMMARY

The purpose of the Public Involvement Plan for the CHPE ARC Project is to increase public understanding of the project in the adjacent Astoria community and address any concerns that might potentially arise during construction. The Public Involvement Program for these Segments will focus on:

- CHPE will continue to work with stakeholders, including residents, business owners, civic and
 environmental organizations, emergency service agencies, elected officials, and educational
 and religious institutions within the Astoria community. CHPE has developed the attached
 stakeholder list to provide complete coverage of a community that is ethnically, socially, and
 religiously diverse but will continue to be updated as needed.
- (Schools and faith-based organizations are focal points of community life and trusted sources
 of information for many in the Astoria community especially LEP individuals and New
 Americans. CHPE will make a special effort to work with these stakeholder groups to ensure all
 in the community are served.)
- CHPE will prepare and distribute a plain language fact sheet and FAQ about the project, translated into the most common languages among Limited English Proficient Astoria area residents. In addition to the most common languages identified in the Public Service Commission Language Access Plan, CHPE will translate outreach materials into Greek. CHPE will continue to reassess the need for additional languages of translation on an ongoing basis. CHPE will post translated fact sheets will on the project website, www.chpexpress.com
- CHPE identified a project Language Access Coordinator (LAC) who will be available throughout
 the construction to assist Limited English Proficiency (LEP) community members with questions,
 comments, and requests related to the project. The LAC will be responsible for determining the
 LEP individual's language and coordinating a response by a technical expert with the assistance
 of a bi-lingual staff member or using Language Line. CHPE will locate the LAC close to the project
 should language access challenges arise.
- CHPE will establish easily accessible document repositories within the Astoria community to make pertinent project information available, including but not limited to the Environmental Management and Construction Plan and Appendices, studies, reports, meeting presentation

materials, fact sheets, and Frequently Asked Questions. CHPE has identified potential repositories in the stakeholder list that follows. CHPE has already established a repository on its website: www.chpexpress.com

- Prior to the start of construction, official notification will be mailed to local officials and stakeholders, posted in community locations, disseminated to local media and provided to constituent service personnel in the regional offices of State and Federal officials.
- Prior to the start of construction, a public open house will be held at a location which is centrally located within the segment, handicapped accessible and convenient to public transportation.

CHPE Involvement with the Astoria Community





Since 2018, CHPE has worked closely with Astoria community leaders, elected officials and environmental activists to find common ground to help reduce the need to burn fossil fuels in the New York City by 25 percent. This involvement has included numerous meetings, events and partnerships with educational and community service institutions.





Throughout the year, the CHPE team joins Queens Together and local volunteers to address food insecurity issues in the local community exacerbated by COVID19 and inflation.





CHPE has provided \$1.25M to the Variety Boys & Girls Club of Queens to build a STEM lab and run programming to prepare the next generation of Astoria's engineers & scientists. Established in 1955, the VBGC is a nonprofit organization that inspires children to discover their passions and cultivate their futures through a diverse array of youth development programs.



CHPE's clean energy supplier, Hydro-Québec, hosted students from Queens, New York, in Montréal for a tour of a hydropower generating station and a research center. The students are taking part in the College Access Program managed by Urban Upbound, a New York non-profit organization that works to provide underserved youth with resources to achieve economic prosperity and self-sufficiency.

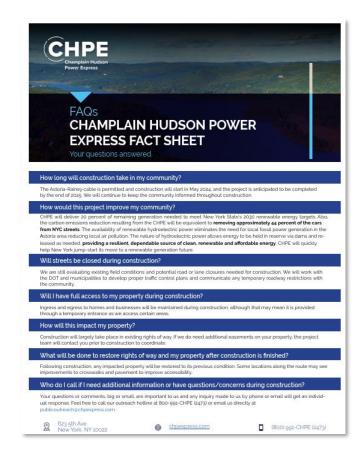




CHPE engaging the Queens community during New York City Climate Week 2023

SEGMENT 23 FACT SHEETS

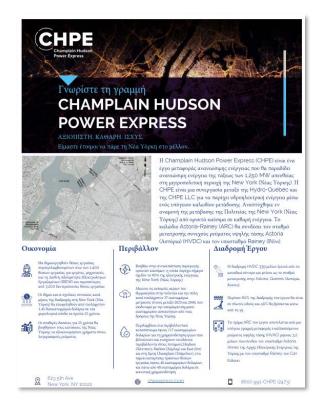


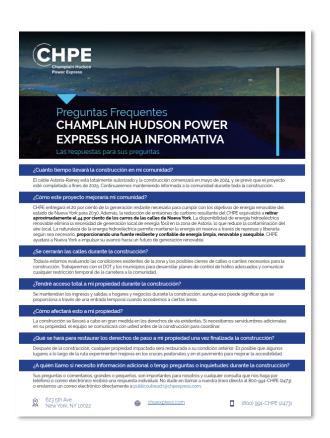


Spanish Version











Segment Rack Cards (Contact Information on back)







Geographic Context



Queens is one of the most diverse urban spaces in the world, and one of the most diverse neighborhoods in Queens is Astoria. It has a reputation as New York City's Greektown, but it's more like an urban United Nations. According to 2020 U.S. Census data, people from nearly 100 countries now call Astoria home.

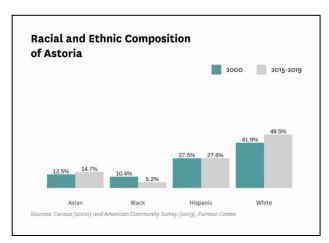
For generations, Astoria has been a multicultural and multilingual neighborhood of single-family and low-rise residences and small businesses. However, thanks largely to its proximity to Manhattan, it has also experienced several years of transformation and gentrification. Given the current affordable housing crisis, Astoria, with its easy access to Manhattan and diversity of cultures and commerce, continues to evolve into one of the more desirable residential areas in New York City.

For example, in November 2022, the New York City Council approved a massive \$2 billion housing development known as Innovation Queens. It will span five city blocks and add more than 3,000 homes to Astoria. Approval, however, was not without controversy. Housing advocates and community activists opposed the project because they believed it did balance the critical need for housing against neighborhood concerns of affordability and gentrification that are forcing lower-income Astoria residents to move elsewhere. The Council approved the project after the developer agreed to designate 1,400 as affordable units.

By decreasing CO2 emissions by an average of 3.9 million metric tons annually, CHPE will help make Astoria and the entire region a healthier place to live and work for current and future residents, regardless of ethnicity or income. The Astoria HVDC converter station is the enabling technology that makes CHPE and this transformative leap from fossil fuels to renewable energy possible.

A Diverse Community with Shifting Demographics

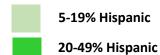
In 2019, there were an estimated 166,069 people in Astoria, of which 14.7% of the population identified as Asian, 5.2% identified as Black, 27.4% identified as Hispanic, and 49.5% identified as White. Astoria remains the focal point of Greek American life in New York. It also boasts vibrant Italian, Irish, Asian, Middle Eastern, and Eastern European communities, commerce, and culture.

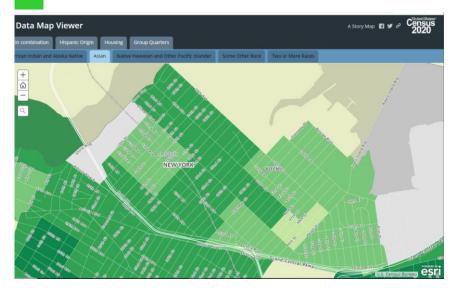


Since 2000, the gentrification of Astoria has resulted in higher rents and home prices, attracting higher wage earners able to afford them. Newcomers to the area cite easy access to public transportation, recreational areas along the East River, and a wide variety of ethnic eating establishments, as Astoria has experienced a significant increase in its white and Asian populations while the percentage of Black residents has been cut in half. The Hispanic population has remained essentially constant.

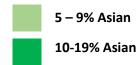


The percentage by nearby Census Block of the total population that reported their ethnicity as Hispanic or Latino for the 2020 Census.





The percentage by Census Block of the total population that reported their race as Asian alone.



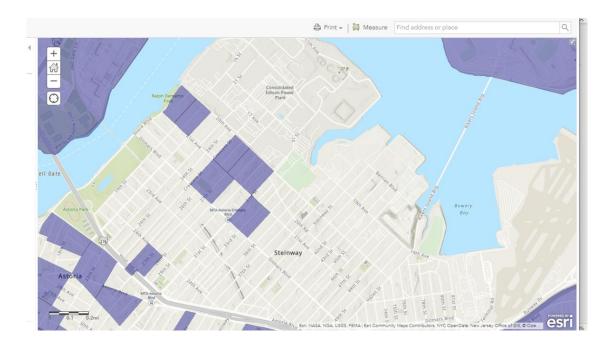
Potential Environmental Justice Communities

Some sections of Astoria have some of the highest home prices in New York City (median price of \$1.15 million in 2020). However, The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) has identified parts of the Astoria community as a *Potential* Environmental Justice Area (PEJA). These are areas that include U.S. Census block

groups of 250 to 500 households with populations that meet or exceed at least one of the following statistical thresholds: At least 52.42% of the population in an urban area reported themselves as members of minority groups, or at least 22.82% of the population area have household incomes below the federal poverty level.

There are six potential EJ Census Blocks located within one-half mile of the project. The minority population in these Blocks ranges from 53 to 67 percent. The percentage of residents living below the poverty line ranges from 5 to 33 percent.

Census Block	Total Population	Percentage Below Poverty Level	% Minority Population
15000US360810105001	611	21.45%	53.50%
15000US360810105002	498	33.15%	53.768%
15000US360810105004	673	16.83%	67.03%
15000US360810111001	1,238	17.8%	67.8%
15000US360810113002	1,448	9.04%	63.54%
15000US360810103004	432	4.46%	64.9%



Potential Environmental Justice Census Blocks

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) defines Environmental Justice as "the fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people regardless of race, color, national origin, or income, with respect to the development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies." CHPE recognizes that this project will occur adjacent to a community where residents have long felt unfairly burdened by air and noise pollution resulting from power generation and that their concerns about health and safety have been ignored.

The area is often referred to as "Asthma Alley" since studies report higher-than-average rates of asthma and respiratory illnesses. According to the New York City Department of Health, "Although NYC air quality is improving, air pollution, such as fine particles (PM2.5), can cause health problems, particularly among the very young, seniors, and those with preexisting health conditions. In Long Island City and Astoria, levels of PM2.5, the most harmful air pollutant, are 8.9 micrograms per cubic meter, compared with 8.4 in Queens and 8.6 citywide."

Attachment 1 Local Stakeholders, Emergency Service Agencies, Public Transportation Providers, Public Notice and Information Distribution Locations

STAKEHOLDER OUTREACH			SEGMENT 23
Organization	Contact Name/Title	Address	Telephone/Email
Local Community Board & City Agencies			
Queens Community Board 1	Marie Torniali, Chair	45-02 Ditmars Boulevard Suite 1025 Astoria, NY 11105	718-626-1021
Queens Community Board 1	Florence Koulouris, Manager	45-02 Ditmars Boulevard Suite 1025 Astoria, NY 11105	718-626-1021
Queens Community Board 1	Antonella Di Saverio Environmental Committee Chairperson	45-02 Ditmars Boulevard Suite 1025 Astoria, NY 11105	718-626-1021
NYPD 114 th Precinct	Deputy Inspector Kenneth S. Gorman	34-16 Astoria Blvd. Queens, NY 11103-4425	Precinct: (718) 626- 9311 Community Affairs: (718) 626-9327
FDNY Battalion 49 Engine 312		22-63 35th St, Queens, NY 11105	718-476-6249
NYC Housing Authority			
FDNY EMS Station 49		1940 42nd St, Queens, NY 11105	718-728-1867
Community and			
Business Organizations			
Central Astoria Local Development Corp.	George Stamatiades	2569 38th Street Astoria, NY 11104	718-728-7820
	Luigi Farina, Chairman	21-20 49th Street Astoria, 11105	betterastoria@gmail.co m
Bangladesh American Association		2363 Steinway Street Astoria, NY 11105	718-278-8181
BFFY Steinway Senior Center		20-43 Steinway Street Astoria, NY 11105	718-728-8473
Catholic War Veterans of the USA Inc.		21 43 29th 5treet Astoria, NY 11105	
Cephalonian Association Aenos Inc.		23 17 29th Street Astoria, NY 11105	

Sons of Italy in		20-37 28th Street	
America		Astoria, NY 11105	
		·	718-726-7329
Demetres Beryeles Greek Cultural Center		26-80 30th Street	/10-/20-/329
Federation of Hellenic		Astoria, NY 11102	719 204 6500
		2251 29th Street	718-204-6500
Societies of Greater		Astoria, NY 11105	
New York Inc.			740,000,0700
Queens Chamber of	Thomas J. Grech, President	75-20 Astoria Blvd	718-898-8500
Commerce		Suite 140, East	
		Elmhurst, NY 11370	
Federation of Italian-		29-21 21st Avenue	
American		Astoria, NY 11105	
Organizations of			
Queens Inc.			
Giannitsa Association		2226 23rd Street	
Megas Alexandros		Astoria, NY 11105	
Inc.			
Greater Astoria		35-20 Broadway, 4th	
Historical Society		Floor long Island City,	
		NY 11106	
Greek American		23·24 31st Street	
Homeowners of NY		Astoria, NY 11105	
Kiwanis International		2131 Shore Boulevard	
		Astoria, NY 11105	
Pancyprian		2315 31st Street	
Association Inc.		Astoria, NY 11105	
Astoria Restoration		31-28 Ditmars Blvd,	
Association Inc.		Queens, NY 11105	
Elected Officials		Queens, Willios	
NYC Council	Council Member, Tiffany Cabán	30-83 31st Street Astoria, NY 11102	718-274-4500
NYC Council	Council Member, Julie Won	37-06 Queens Boulevard,	718-383-9566
		Suite 205, Long Island City,	
		NY 11101	
NYS Assembly	Assemblyman, Zohran K. Mamdani	24-08 32nd Street	718-545-3889
		Suite 1002A Astoria,	
		NY 11102	
NYS Senate	Senator Jessica Ramos	74-09 37th Ave, Jackson	718-205-3881
	Tallada dasara namas	Heights, NY 11372	. =0 200 0001
NYS Senate	Senator Michael Gianaris	31-19 Newtown	718-728-0960
	Condition Whomaer Gianaris	Avenue Suite 402	, 10 , 20 0300
		Astoria, NY 11102	
Queens County	Borough President,	120-55 Queens	718-286-3000
Queens country	Donovan Richards	Boulevard Kew	7 10 200 3000
LIC House of	Computed Managham Alamanda	Gardens, NY 11424	710 662 5070
US House of	Congress Member Alexandria	74-09 37th Avenue,	718-662-5970
Representatives	Ocasio-Cortez	Suite 305 Jackson	
		Heights, NY 11372	

City of New York	Hon. Eric Adams	1 Centre Street, New	
	Mayor	York, NY 10007	
City of New York	Hon. Brad Lander	1 Centre Street, New	
	New York City	York, NY 10007	
	Comptroller		
City of New York	Hon. Jumaane	1 Centre Street, 15 th Floor	
	Williams Public	North, New York, NY	
	Advocate	10007	
Environmental			
Organizations			
Astoria Residents		35-38 35th St,	
Reclaiming Our World		Queens, NY 11106	
Astoria/LIC	Karn Overton	35-30 35th St.	718-706-8044
Waterfront		Astoria, NY 11106	
Parks			
Earthjustice	Nydia Gutiérrez	48 Wall St 19th Floor,	212-845-7376
		New York, NY 10005	
Food & Water Watch	Laura Shindell		
League of	Julia Tighe	30 Broad St #30, New	212-361-6350
Conservation Voters		York, NY 10004	
Natural Resources		40 W 20th St #11th,	212-727-2700
Defense Council		New York, NY 10011	
New York Public	Eric Wood	9 Murray Street,	212-349-6460
Interest Research		Lower-Level New	
Group (NVPIRG)		York, NY 10007	
NY Communities for		470 Vanderbilt Ave.	347-410-6919
Change		9th Fl. Brooklyn, NY	
		11238	
NY Lawyers for the	Erin Gaffney	151 West 30th Street	212-244-4664
Public Interest	,	New York, New York	
		10001-4017	
NYC Environmental	Eddie Bautista, Executive Director	462 36th Street, 3F	
Justice Alliance	,	Brooklyn, NY 11232	
SANE Energy Project	Lee Ziesche	232 E 11th St, New	646-387-3180
3 67 2,222		York, NY 10003	
Sierra Club Beyond	Jessica King		jessica.king@
Coal Project			sierraclub.org
WE ACT for	Peggy Shepard, Executive	1854 Amsterdam	212-961-1000
Environmental	Director	Avenue, 2nd Floor	
Justice		New York, NY 10031	
New York City Asthma		161-169 East 110th	212-996-8747
Partnership ,		Street New York, NY	
		10029	

Media			
CYPRECO Of America, Inc.	Greek On-line News	P.O. Box 5869, Astoria, NY 11105	718-545-1151
El Diario La Presnsa	Spanish Language Newspaper	1 Metrotech Center, 18th Floor Brooklyn, NY 11201	
Hellenic News of America	Greek Language Newspaper	P.O. Box 465 Concordville, PA 19331-0465	484-427-7446
LIC Astoria Journal			718-639-7000
World Journal	Chinese Language Newspaper	141-07 20th Ave. Whitestone, NY 11357	718-746-8889
Queens Chronicle	Sophie Krichevsky	71-19 80th Street, Suite 8-201 Glendale, NY 11385	sophiek@qchron.com
Religious Institutions			
Free Apostolic Church		2047 Steinway Street	
of Pentecost		Astoria, NY 11105	
Astoria Islamic Center		18-22 Astoria Blvd, Queens, NY 11102	
Astoria Islamic Center/Masjid Baitul Mukarram		22-21 33rd St, Queens, NY 11105	718-204-7562
Ekklesia New York		35-12 Astoria Blvd. South, 2nd Floor, Astoria NY 11104	
Family Church		2613 18th St, Queens, NY 11102	718-267-6419
Gawsiah Jame Masjid		25-86 31st St, Astoria, NY 11102	347-738-4714
Grace Lutheran Church		31-20 21st Ave, Queens, NY 11105	718-728-0093
Igreja Universal		25 -15 Steinway St, Astoria, NY 11103	
Immaculate Conception Roman Catholic Church		21-47 29th St, Queens, NY 11105	718-728-1613
Masjid Al-Iman		24-30 Steinway St, Long Island City, NY 11103	

Muslim American		46 01 20th Ave	718-606-6025
Society of Queens Ibn		46-01 20th Ave, Queens, NY 11105	718-606-6025
Sina Center		Queens, NY 11105	
New Beginnings		40-11 23rd Ave,	718-928-5119
Church of Astoria		Astoria, NY 11105	
Sacred Patriarchal		36-07 23rd Ave,	718-626-6225
and Stavropegial		Astoria, NY 11105	, 13 020 0223
Orthodox Monastery		, 15(6) (14) (17) 11105	
of St. Irene			
Chrysovalantou			
St. Francis of Assisi		21-18 46th Street	718-728-7801
Catholic Church		Astoria, NY 11105	
St. Markella Greek		22-68 26th St,	718-932-1592
Orthodox Cathedral		Queens, NY 11105	
Steinway Reformed		4101 Ditmars Blvd,	718-728-2948
Church		Queens, NY 11105	
Sts. Catherine &		22-30 33rd St,	
George Greek		Queens, NY 11105	
Orthodox Church		·	
Schools			
The Alfred Zimberg	Principal	75-10 21st Ave,	718-728-1459
School	'	Queens, NY 11370	
Astoria Lutheran	Principal	31-20 21st Ave,	718-721-4313
School	'	Queens, NY 11105	
St. Irene's Daycare		42-11 Ditmars Blvd,	718-626-6225
,		Queens, NY 11105	
I.S. 141 The Steinway	Princinal	37-11 21st Ave,	718-278-6403
1.3. 141 THE Stelliway	rincipal	Queens, NY 11105	718-278-0403
		Queens, Willios	
Immaculate	Principal	21-63 29th St,	718-728-1969
Conception	Timelpai	Astoria, NY 11105	710 720 1303
Catholic Academy		, iscoria, ivi 11105	
P.S. 84 Steinway	Principal	22-45 41st St,	718-278-1915
School	'	Queens, NY 11105	
		·	
P.S. 85 Judge Charles	Principal	23-70 31st St,	718-278-3630
Vallone		Queens, NY 11105	
PS/MS 122Q The	Principal	21-21 Ditmars Blvd,	718-721-6410
Mamie		Queens, NY 11105	
Fay School			
St. Francis of Assisi	Principal	21-18 46th Street	718-726-9405
Catholic Academy		Astoria, NY 11105	
St. John's	Principal	21-21 Crescent St,	718-721-7200
Preparatory		Astoria, NY 11105	
School		,	
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Document			
Repositories			
Queens Public Library	Astoria Branch	14-01 Astoria	718-278-2220
		Boulevard Astoria, NY	
		11102	
Queens Public Library	Ravenswood Branch	35-32 21 St. LIC, NY	718-361-0253
		11106	
Queens Public Library	Long Island City Branch	37-44 21 Street Long	718-752-3700
		Island City, NY 11101	